



ACTS and LAWS,

Made and passed by the General Court or
Assembly of the State of Connecticut,
holden at New-Haven, in said State, on
the second Thursday of October Anno
Dom. 1788.

An Act to prevent the Importation of Convicts.

BE it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General
Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That no Person
convicted of any Crime, in any foreign Country, and sentenced there-
for to be transported abroad, shall be imported into this State; and
that any Person or Persons who shall, contrary to the true Intent and
Meaning of this Act, import, or bring into this State any such Convict;
or be aiding or assisting therein, knowing such Person so imported
to be a Convict, and sentenced as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay to
the Treasurer of this State, the Sum of *One Hundred Pounds*, for every
such Convict, so imported as aforesaid. And whenever any Person

No person con-
victed of any
crime in a for-
eign country,
&c. shall be
imported into
this state, on
penalty of 100l
unless, &c.

or Persons shall be prosecuted for any Breach of this Act, such Person shall be adjudged guilty of the same, unless they shall make full Proof that they had lawful Right to import the same; and that such Importation was not contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act.

States attorneys, & Grand Jurors to make presentment, &c.

And it is hereby made the Duty of the several States Attorneys, and of the Grand-Jurors in this State, to make Information and Presentment of all Breaches of this Act.

An Act to prevent the Slave-Trade.

No inhabitant of this state to receive on board his or her vessel any inhabitants of Africa, for &c. on penalty of 50l.

and 500l. for every vessel employed in, &c.

BE it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That no Citizen or Inhabitant of this State, shall for himself, or any other Person, either as Master, Factor, Supercargo, Owner or Hirer, in Whole, or in Part, of any Vessel, directly or indirectly, import or transport, or buy or sell, or receive on board his or her Vessel, with intent to cause to be imported or transported, any of the Inhabitants of any Country in Africa, as Slaves or Servants, for Term of Years; upon Penalty of *Fifty Pounds*, for every Person so received on board, as aforesaid; and of *Five Hundred Pounds*, for every such Vessel employed in the Importation or Transportation aforesaid; to be recovered by Action, Bill, Plaint or Information; the one Half to the Plaintiff, and the other Half to the Use of this State.

Insurance on vessels employed in, &c. void

And all insurance, which shall be made in this State, on any Vessel fitted out to the Intent aforesaid, and employed as aforesaid, or on any Slaves or Servants shipped on board as aforesaid, for the Purpose aforesaid, shall be void. And this Act may be given in Evidence, under the general Issue, in any Suit commenced for the Recovery of such Insurance.

If any person shall kidnap, &c. any free negro, &c. inhabitants, or &c. of this state, to forfeit 100l. &c.

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any Person shall kidnap, decoy or forcibly carry off, out of this State, any free Negro, Indian, or Mulatto, or any Person entitled to Freedom at the Age of Twenty-five Years, Inhabitants or Residents within this State; or shall be aiding or assisting therein, and be thereof duly convicted, shall forfeit *One Hundred Pounds* to the Use of this State; to be recovered by Bill, Plaint or Information, presented by any Friend of such Inhabitant or Resident, which he is hereby authorized to do. And the Court before whom the Trial shall be, shall, in Addition to said Penalty, on Conviction, give to the Prosecutor, for the Use of such injured Inhabitant, or his Family, (if any he have) such Sum in Damages, as they shall judge just and reasonable, to be applied in such Way and Manner as the Court shall direct: And the said Prosecutor shall give Bond, with Surety, before the Court, for the due Application of the Sums recovered, before he has Execution thereof.

Provido.

Provided, That Nothing in this Act shall operate to prevent Persons removing out of this State, for the Purpose of Residence, from carrying or transporting

transporting with them, such Negroes or Mulattoes, as belong to them, or to prevent Persons living within this State, from directing their Servants out of this State, about their ordinary any necessary Business.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Owner, Master or Factor of each and every Vessel clearing out for the Coast of Africa, or suspected by any Citizen of this State, to be intended for the Slave-Trade, in any Part of the World: and the Suspicion being declared to the Naval-Officer, by such Citizen, on Oath; and such Information being to the Satisfaction of such Naval-Officer, shall first give Bond, with sufficient Sureties, to the Treasurer of this State, in *One Thousand Pounds*, that none of the Natives of Africa, or any other foreign Country, shall be taken on board said Ship or Vessel, during her Voyage, with Intent to be transported as Slaves, to any other Part of the World.

Every vessel clearing for the coast of Africa, or &c. to give bond, &c.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Persons who now are, or hereafter shall be possessed of any Child or Children born after the first Day of March 1784, and which by Law shall be free at the Age of Twenty-five Years, shall within Six Months from the rising of this Assembly, or within Six Months after the Birth of any such Child, deliver, or cause to be delivered to the Town-Clerk of the Town where such Possessor belongs, the Name of such Possessor, as also the Age, Name and Sex of every such Child or Children, on Oath, to the best of his or her Knowledge, under the Penalty of *Forty Shillings*, for each and every Month's Neglect, to be recovered before an Assistant or Justice of the Peace; the one Half to the Complainant, and the other Half to the Use of the Poor of the Town where such Child or Children live.

Those possessed of children, by law free at 25 years, to give in their names, & the name and age of such children to the townclerks, on penalty of 40s. each month's neglect.

An Act in Alteration of an Act, entitled, "An Act providing for the Relief of disabled Officers, Soldiers and Seamen."

BE it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same; That no Person shall be entitled to any Pension or Allowance from this State, in Consequence of the Provisions of said Act, unless his Claim shall have been exhibited and allowed, and the Certificate and Evidence thereof presented for Record in the Manner directed by said Act, within six Months from and after the eleventh Day of June 1788, any Thing in this Act notwithstanding.

No invalid's claim for a pension to be allowed, &c. unless, &c. see p. 361, &c.

Be it further enacted, That each and every of the Judges of the Superior Court, the Honorable ABRAHAM DAVENPORT, and DANIEL SHERMAN, Esquir's, shall be, and hereby is vested with the same Powers and Authorities as by said Act, any two of the said Judges are vested with.

Hon. A. Davenport, & D. Sherman, Esq. vested with the same powers, as, &c.

An Act in Addition to a Law of this State, entitled, "An Act for laying and collecting Duties on the Importation of certain Articles, and for appropriating the same."

Duties in pursuance of a resolve of Congress 28th of April 1784, how paid.

BE it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the Duties by said Act, made payable in Money or Certificates for interest issued from the Loan-Office, in this State, pursuant to a Resolution of Congress, of the 28th of April, 1784, may be paid in Indents or Certificates for Interest issued from any Office authorized for that Purpose, by the United States.

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